

REMARKS

Claims 33-46, 49-61, 65-65, and 68-74 were presented for examination in the present application. The instant amendment cancels claim 34 without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 33, 35-46, 49-61, 65-65, and 68-74 are presented for consideration upon entry of the instant amendment, which is respectfully requested. Claims 33, 68, and 74 are independent.

The Office Action objected to claim 33 for various informalities.

Claim 33 has been amended to obviate these objections. Specifically, claim 33 has been amended to recite "the light-guiding device further comprising a light guiding plate" and has been amended to remove the objected "edge surface" element.

Applicants respectfully submit that these amendments obviate the objections. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to claim 33.

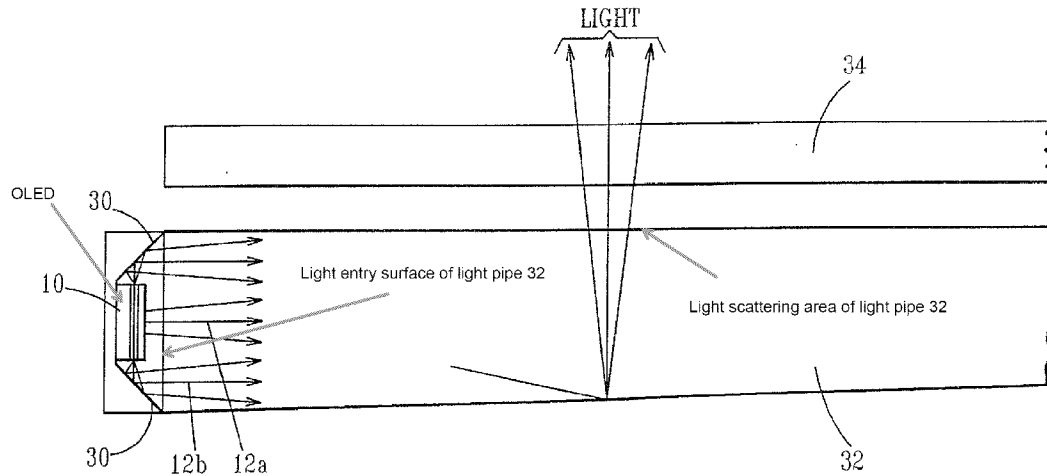
Independent claims 33, 68, and 74, as well as dependent claims 34-42, 45-46, 52, 58-61, and 69-71, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Publication No. 2001/0030320 to Budd et al. (Budd).

Applicants maintain the traversal of this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection.

Independent claim 33 recites "at least one OLED **arranged on** the light entry surface (emphasis added)". Further, independent claim 33 recites "busbars being **arranged on** said light guiding plate (emphasis added)".

Budd simply fails to disclose or suggest the claimed combination. For ease of analysis, a marked version of Figure 2 disclosed by Budd is reproduced below.

FIG. 2



Budd discloses a device that includes an OLED 10, a light-folding means 30 for collecting and redirecting light emitted from the sides, i.e. edges, of the OLED 10, and a light pipe 32 for collecting the light from the folding means 30. Additionally, Budd discloses a display means 34 for utilizing the collected light illuminated by light pipe 32. Budd discloses that light pipe 32 works by utilizing unfocused transmissions and reflections to reduce photon losses. See paragraph [0041].

To the extent that the light pipe 32 of Budd reads on the "light guiding plate" of claim 33, Applicants maintain that the OLED 10 of Budd is clearly not "arranged on the light entry surface" as recited by claim 33.

Rather, Budd clearly discloses that OLED 10 is spaced apart from the light entry surface of light pipe 32. Applicants submit that such spacing between the light entry surface of light pipe 32 and the OLED 10 is necessary in order for light-folding means 30 for collecting and redirecting light emitted from the edges of the OLED 10.

The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to arrange the OLED 10 directly on light pipe 32 citing to the holding in *In re Japikse*. Applicants submit that such a modification of Budd would render it inoperative for its intended purpose.

Budd clearly discloses a problem with prior art OLED's with respect to Figures 1a and 1b. Specifically, Budd discloses that the opaque or semitransparent metallic cathode reflects light back towards the organic layers, which having a higher refractive indices than that of air such that only 17% of the photons (illustrated as 12a in Figure 3 above) escape for illumination, while 83% of the photons (illustrated as 12b in Figure 3 above) are trapped inside the organic and glass layers and escaping from the edges of the substrate.

As such, Budd discloses that its **intended purpose** is to use light-folding means 30 to capture the light 12b. The Office Action has not provided reasonable basis either within the disclosure of Budd or in other other prior art, and Applicants know of none, as to how one would move the OLED 10 of Budd from its position on light-folding means 30 to the edge of light pipe 32 yet still obtain the same intended result of capturing light 12b.

Stated another way, Applicants submit that moving the OLED 10 of Budd to the edge of light pipe 32 would result in the OLED interfering with **both** the light-folding means 30 ability to collect and redirect light emitted from the sides of the OLED 10 **and** the ability of the light pipe 32 to collect the light from the folding means 30.

A similar result (i.e., Budd being rendered inoperative) occurs when modifying Budd to provide its electrical contacts "**arranged on** said light guiding plate" as in claim 33.

Referring again to Figure 3 reproduced above, the OLED 10 of Budd is on the light-folding means 30 and not on the edge of light pipe 32. If one were to modify the device of Budd so as to place the OLED 10 on the edge of light pipe 32, Applicants submit that the OLED 10 would need to be **rotated ninety degrees** from its current position in Budd in order for the electrical contacts to be arranged on the edge of light pipe 32.

Specifically, the specification of Budd is silent as to the existence or location of its busbar. Rather and as best seen in Figure 1a, Budd (as best understood) discloses electrical contacts on the right hand of the OLED. Thus, the OLED 10 would need to be **rotated ninety degrees** from its current position in order for these contacts to be arranged on the edge of light pipe 32. Such a modification is not disclosed or suggested by Budd and in fact would render Budd unsuitable for its intended purpose.

Also, Applicants submit that moving the contacts of Budd to the edge of light pipe 32 would result in the OLED interfering with **both** the light-folding means 30 ability to collect and redirect light emitted from the sides of the OLED 10 **and** the ability of the light pipe 32 to collect the light from the folding means 30.

Still further, Applicants submit that the arrangement of "at least one OLED **arranged on** the light entry surface" and "busbars being **arranged on** said light guiding plate" of claim 33 results in a modification to the operation of the device in Budd.

In fact, the Office Action acknowledges this modified operation by asserting that such a modification would result in a maximized intensity as compared to the device of Budd. Applicants submit that different structures that result in modified device operation are in direct contrast to the holding in *In re Japikse*.

Moreover, and merely in the interest of expediting prosecution, Applicants have amended claim 33 to include elements of dependent claim 34, which has been cancelled. Thus, claim 33 now further recites that the light-guiding device includes "at least one light-scattering area comprising **light-scattering structures applied to the surface of the light-scattering area** (emphasis added)".

Applicants submit that no portion of the light pipe in Budd discloses or suggests "light-scattering structures **on the surface of the light-scattering area**" as now recited by claim 33.

Again referring to Figure 3 reproduced above, the light pipe 32 of Budd clearly lacks any light-scattering structures on its surface.

In sum, Applicants submit that Budd fails to disclose or suggest the claimed combination of "light-scattering structures **applied to the surface** of the light-scattering area", "at least one OLED **arranged on** the light entry surface", and "busbars being **arranged on** said light guiding plate" of claim 33.

Accordingly, claim 33, as well as claims 35-46, 49-61, and 65-66 that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance over Budd. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 33, 35-46, 49-61 and 65-66 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 68, much like claim 33 discussed above, recites "an OLED having a transparent electrode layer **arranged on** the light entry surface", as well as first and second contact surfaces that serve as "busbars for supporting conductivity of the transparent and second electrode layers" where the busbars are "**arranged on** said glass substrate".

Again, Budd is directed to an OLED that is positioned a predetermined distance from the light entry face of the light guide. Thus, the OLED of Budd is clearly not arranged on the light entry surface as in claim 68. Further, the remotely positioned OLED of Budd clearly does not have contact surfaces forming busbars that are "arranged on" the light guiding plate as in claim 68.

Any modification of Budd to move its OLED from the light-folding means 30 to the edge of light pipe 32 would render Budd unsuitable for its intended purpose and would require rotation of the OLED by ninety degrees.

Further, Applicants submit that the arrangement of claim 68 results in a modification to the operation of the device in Budd, which is in direct contrast to the holding in *In re Japikse*.

Accordingly, claim 68, as well as claims 69-73 that depend therefrom, are in condition for issuance over Budd. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 68-73 are respectfully requested.

Independent claim 74 recites "a glass substrate having a light entry surface, a first lateral surface, and a second lateral surface", "a first contact surface having **a first portion arranged on said a first lateral surface** and a second portion arranged on said light entry surface" and "second contact surface having **a first portion arranged on said second lateral surface** and a second portion in electrical contact with the second electrode layer", where these first portions comprises "**reflective surfaces**".

Budd simply fails to disclose or suggest any electrical contacts. The Office Action acknowledges as much but asserts that it would have been obvious to arrange the contacts in the manner claimed as mere "rearranging of parts" citing to *In re Japikse*.

Applicants traverse this assertion. In essence, the Office Action is asserting that it is mere rearranging of parts to:

- (1) move the electrical contacts (which are not even shown in Budd) from the OLED 10 to light pipe 32;
- (2) then, to position a portion of one contact on a lateral surface and another portion on the light entry surface;
- (3) then, position a portion of the other contact on a different lateral surface; and
- (4) then, to make these contacts reflective.

However, there is simply no support provided by the Office Action for such an extensive modification to the disclosure of Budd other than that all of these structural differences are the "mere arranging of parts".

Further, even if one were to presume that such an extensive modification could be made, Applicants submit that placing a reflective contact on the light entry surface

would render Budd inoperative for its intended purpose since this reflective contact would prevent light 12b reflected by the light-folding means 30 from entering the light entry surface, which would frustrate the very purpose of Budd.

Still further, Applicants submit that the claimed the location and reflective nature of the contacts modifies the operation of the device in direct contrast to the holding in *In re Japikse*. Specifically, the reflective contacts render moot the need for the light-folding means 30 of Budd, which was the essence of the invention disclosed in Budd.

Accordingly, claim 74 is in condition for issuance over Budd. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claim 74 are respectfully requested.

Independent claims 33 and 68, as well as dependent claims 34-46, 49-61, 65-66, and 69-73, were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,777,871 to Duggal et al. (Duggal).

Independent claim 33 recites that the busbars are "arranged on said light guiding plate". Similarly, independent claim 68 recites that the busbars are "arranged on said glass substrate".

The Office Action acknowledges that Duggal does not disclose or suggest arranging busbars on a light guiding plate. Rather, the Office Action asserts that such a modification is mere rearranging of parts.

Applicants disagree.

Rather, Applicants maintain that this modification would render Duggal unsuitable for its intended purpose. Specifically, Applicants submit that moving the contacts of Duggal to the surface of either material 3 or layer 7 would result in the contacts interfering with the propagation of light through the material 3 and the layer 7.

Moreover, Applicants submit that the rationale provided by the Office Action for such a modification mischaracterizes the results of the modification. The Office Action asserts that arranging busbars on the light entry surface would maximize the intensity and efficiency of the lighting device. Applicants disagree. It is not seen how placing busbars on a light entry surface could do anything but prevent light from entering the device in the regions of the busbars.

Accordingly, claims 33 and 68, as well as claims 35-46, 49-61, 65-66, and 69-73 that depend therefrom, are in condition for allowance over Duggal. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection to claims 33, 35-46, 49-61, 65-65, and 68-73 are respectfully requested.

In addition, dependent claim 72 recites, in part, that the first and second contact surfaces each comprise "a portion extending on **opposite lateral surfaces** of the light-entry surface (emphasis added)". In contrast, Duggal specifically discloses that the electrical contacts 162, 164 occupy a **common plane**. See col. 13, lines 23-26 and FIGS. 9 and 11. Further, and to the extent that electrical contacts 162, 164 extend on opposite lateral surfaces of sealing member 150 shown in step 6 of FIG. 11, Applicants submit that sealing member 150 is not the light entry surface. Thus, dependent claim 72 is also in condition for allowance over Duggal.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in condition for immediate issuance. Such action is solicited.

In the alternative, Applicants submit that the instant amendment places the present application in better condition for appeal without requiring further search and consideration by obviating the objections to claim 33 and amending claim 33 to include elements of cancelled claim 34. Accordingly, entry and consideration of the instant amendment, at least for the purposes of appeal, are respectfully requested.

If for any reason the Examiner feels that consultation with Applicants' attorney would be helpful in the advancement of the prosecution, the Examiner is invited to call the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,

February 10, 2010

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